

Deerfield, IL - Congressman Mark Kirk (R-Highland Park) announced that six 10th District Fire Departments will be receiving over \$500,000 in Assistance to Firefighters Grants from the Department of Homeland Security. The towns of Mount Prospect, Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, Arlington Heights, Highland Park and Northfield all received money under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program and will use the funding to better protect the health and safety of our firefighters during emergency and rescue missions.

“We must ensure that our first responders are able to provide the best and safest response to our communities in times of emergency,” said Kirk. “It is essential that emergency equipment be updated and kept operational so our firefighters are better protected when responding to emergencies. It is also important that our first responders work in suitable healthy environments when they are not responding to an emergency. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant money awarded to these departments will accomplish these objectives.”

The City of Lake Forest received nearly \$125,000 to purchase new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA) replacing models that were nearly 20-years-old and did not meet current standards. The Villages of Mount Prospect and Lake Bluff received 128,000, and \$113,000 to also replace outdated SCBA equipment. The towns of Northfield and Highland Park received \$41,000 and \$84,000 to install a Vehicle Exhaust Extraction System. The Village of Arlington Heights received \$54,000 to help purchase a mobile breathing air system trailer to provide depth and versatility at the scene of any large or protracted emergency incident.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program is administered by the Department of Homeland Security’s Office for Domestic Preparedness in cooperation with the Department’s United States Fire Administration.

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